

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/032,704

Examiner

Yemane M. Gerezgiher

Applicant(s)

ROACH, TYNAN GEORGE

Art Unit

2144

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/30/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4, 7, 8, 10-19, 22-26, 28 and 29 (renumbered 1-23).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 6/17/06
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

W. C. VAUGHN, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Kevin G. Show (Reg. No.: 43110) on June 7, 2006.

2. In the claims:

- In Claim 3, Line 2 after the expression "selected from" and before the expression "group", please delete the term "the" and insert -- a --.
- In Claim 10, Line 2 after the expression "performed by" and before the expression "data", please delete "an" and insert -- a --.
- In Claim 11, Line 2 after the expression "selected from" and before the expression "group", please delete the term "the" and insert -- a --.
- In Claim 13, Line 4 after the expression "output-formatted data to" and before the expression "downstream", please delete the expression "any data of".
- In Claim 15, Line 3 after the expression "output format and" and before the expression "output protocol", please delete the vowel "a" and insert the term -- an --.

- In Claim 23, Line 1 after the expression “according to claim” please delete the number “21” and insert -- 22 --.
- In Claim 23, Line 2 after the expression “selected from” and before the expression “group”, please delete the term “the” and insert -- a --.
- In Claim 28, Line 3 after the expression “used with” and before the expression “network element”, please delete the term “any type of”
- In Claim 28, Line 3 after the expression “network element and” and before the expression “downstream elements”, please delete the term “any type of”
- In Claim 29, Line 2 after the expression “selected from” and before the expression “group”, please delete the term “the” and insert -- a --.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10-19, 22-26, 28 and 29 (renumbered 1-23) are allowed.

The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

The inventive entity persuasively argued (see Remark, Page 11, Line 29 through Page 12, Line 11, Page 13, Lines 5-30 and Page 14, Lines 1-18) that none of the prior art of record taken singularly or in combination teaches or suggests generating a usage based records for network service providers by collecting usage event data records from a plurality of network communication devices having therein a key module associated with each event data record identifying usage event data as a relevant usage data event to a particular

usage session; normalizing the usage data event, combining the already normalized usage data events by associating the normalized records for related events with each event records in accordance with the key modules to generate usage detail records; each of the detail record including therein a key module and a identified length of a usage data of at least one usage event data records related to the same usage session; the combining/aggregating function utilizing a database comprising a hashing table and page files preserved in a local memory, the page files containing therein the normalized and aggregated usage event data records; the key module indicating the linkage of the hashing table and the page files and further in combination with the functional limitation of exchanging the usage detail records with the downstream entities by converting data formats of the usage detail records to a suitable output data format and dispensing the suitable outputted data content to the downstream entities as recited in claims 1 and 16. Enabling portion of the specification in support of the claimed functional limitations is disclosed in the specification (see Spec. Figs. 2,3 & 8, Page 12, Line 17 through Page 13, Line 22 and Page 28, Line 16 through Page 29, Line 13).

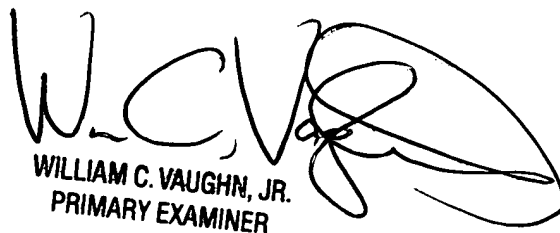
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yemane M. Gerezgiher whose telephone number is (571) 272-3927. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached at (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Yemane M. Gerezgiher
Patent Examiner, Computer Science


WILLIAM C. VAUGHN, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER